



#9 Response
Smw 2-21-03

Attorney Docket No. 122.1393

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Tadao INOUE et al.

Application No.: 09/505,783

Group Art Unit: 2633

Confirmation No.: 6995

Filed: February 17, 2000

Examiner: Sherif R. Fahmy

For: LIGHT OUTPUT CONTROL CIRCUIT

RESPONSE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The Office Action includes an election/restriction in which the Examiner indicates that the nineteen (19) claims are elected/restricted into twenty-four (24) different Species. The Applicants are unsure how the Examiner determined the twenty-four (24) Species, or how the various claims would correspond to the Species identified by the Examiner. However, in an effort to comply with the election/restriction requirement, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 corresponds to a species as shown in FIGS. 4-11.

Accordingly, Applicants hereby elect a species as shown by FIGS. 4-11, corresponding to claim 1. Applicants note that claims 2-7 depend from claim 1, and should be allowable if claim 1 is allowed.

If the Examiner has any questions or concerns, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact Attorney Kravetz at (202) 434-1500.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: February 12, 2003

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